

**RULES FOR SHEEPGRAZING.****A General Policy Adopted by the Department Governing Grazing on the Forest Reserves.**

Forest Supervisor Breen has received from the interior department a copy of the new regulations governing sheepgrazing on forest reserves. They are as follows:

By decision of February 8, 1902, the Hon. Secretary has decided, as a general policy governing sheepgrazing in the forest reserves where such grazing may be allowed by the department:

1. That the woolgrowers' associations, when such associations represent a majority of the sheepowners or of the interests involved in woolgrowing, shall be notified of the boundaries within which they may recommend the allotment of permits, the maximum number of sheep to be grazed within such boundaries, the boundaries of the closed areas, the rules and regulations to be observed, and the penalties for their violation; that where sheepgrazing is allowed in a forest reserve in a state or territory where there is no woolgrowers' association that represents a majority of the sheepowners or of the interests engaged in that industry, then the allotment of permits will be made by the forest supervisor and the inspector or superintendent, jointly. Whether or not the woolgrowers' association in any given state or territory does represent the majority of sheepowners, or of the interests engaged in that industry, shall be determined by the supervisor.

2. That the association, when qualified, as prescribed in Paragraph 1, shall notify its members and all others who have ranged sheep on the given area within two years to file their applications with its secretary by a given date, the date to be fixed by the commissioner of the general land office.

3. That the association shall consider all applications, beginning on that date, and recommend the allotment of the range among the applicants. Allotments to be to individual applicants, except when special and peculiar circumstances make necessary the allotment of joint ranges; preference to be given to owners in the following order:

(a) To actual residents of the reserve who own farms or permanent ranches therein.

(b) To persons who own permanent ranches within the reserve, but who reside outside of the reserve.

(c) To persons who are neighbors of the reserve.

(d) To other persons who have some equitable claim.

4. That when the association has agreed upon the applications they will be transmitted to the supervisor on or before a date to be fixed by the commissioner of the general land office, and by him referred to the department with his recommendations.

5. That permits issued by the department shall be forwarded by the land office to the association, which will receipt for them and distribute them to the grantees; official lists of permits issued to be forwarded to the association and supervisor, and each list to be held open to public inspection; the supervisor being required to record the permits issued.

6. That the supervisor shall furnish to each ranger a list of the holders of permits.

7. That the department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all recommendations for the allotment of range, but that it will not consider protests against alleged unfair allotment of range, except when endorsed as well-founded by the supervisor or superintendent jointly.

8. That associations will be recog-

nized by the department only so long as they deal equitably in the allotment of range.

9. That the government will recognize but one association in dealing with applications for any one reserve, and will not take cognizance of disputes within any association.

10. That membership in associations must be open to all reputable owners, and that any application for membership which is refused must be promptly reported, with the reasons therefor, to the supervisor.

11. That permits will be refused to persons who have willfully violated either the regulations of the department or the terms of previous permits, or who, during the past season, have willfully trespassed upon the areas closed to sheepgrazing; a list of such persons to be sent to the secretary of the association and the forest supervisor with the notification regarding grazing permits.

12. That in all cases where associations make satisfactory recommendations for individual allotments of sheep and range, as hereinabove required, on or before a date to be fixed by the commissioner of the general land office, permits for one year will be issued.

**DUTIES OF THE ASSOCIATIONS.**

As to the duties of the associations, and the penalties, the secretary's said decision is as follows:

1. It will be the duty of each association to see that all of the rules and regulations under which the grazing is allowed, and that the terms of all applications and permits are fully complied with, and to report any violation thereof to the supervisor.

2. Any area from which sheep have been expelled because of unreported violation of the rules or the terms of the permit will remain closed for not less than three years.

**PENALTIES—PERMITS CANCELLED AND REFUSED.**

Penalties will be imposed upon the associations and the permit holders for a violation of any of the rules, as follows:

1. For obtaining or attempting to obtain a permit on false representations.

2. For wilful trespass upon areas where not permitted, either on closed areas or the ranges of others.

3. For setting out fires to clear range.

4. For wilful negligence in leaving camp or other fires.

5. For refusing to observe promptly any direct order from the department requiring an observance of any rule.

**OTHER PENALTIES.**

The number of sheep covered by any permit to be reduced 15 per cent for the following causes, viz:

1. For crowding onto a neighbor's range without the consent of said neighbor.

2. For bedding sheep more than six nights in succession in any one place, except when bedding bands of ewes during lambing season.

3. For entering the reserve prior to the date authorized.

4. For remaining in the reserve after the permit has expired.

5. For corraling within 500 yards of a running stream or living spring.

6. For gross carelessness in leaving camp fires.

7. For failure to aid in extinguishing a fire occurring within the range occupied when possible to do so.

8. And for such other minor violations of the rules as may occur.

9. For failure of herder to corral for count, upon order of forest officer or ranger, when number of sheep appears to be greater than the number covered by permit.

You will be further advised as to your reserves within a few days.

Very respectfully,

BINGER HERMANN,  
Commissioner.

Besides the penalties mentioned above, the usual legal penalties for violation of rules may also be invoked by forest officers for violation of the rules. Specific instructions relative to the number of sheep, excluded areas, etc., have not as yet been received by Supervisor Breen for the Grand Canyon, San Francisco Mountains and Black Mesa reserves, but are expected soon, when woolgrowers will receive due notice of same.

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